



MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

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CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM REVIEW

The Co-operative Development Program will be reviewed in March 1983.

The Co-operative Development Program is a most important experiment. The program has the potential to make an impact on long-term job creation, the structure and organisation of workplaces and work, and worker and/or community ownership and control of business enterprises. Its continuation beyond 1982/83, however, will be subject to a demonstration of its effectiveness, the availability of funds, and government priorities.

The Minister for Employment and Training, The Honourable Jim Simmonds, MP, has decided that the program should be reviewed before the end of this financial year.

The Minister is inviting members of the funding committee and the working party on loans and conversion co-operatives, the Co-operative Federation of Victoria, the Vocational Orientation Centre, funded groups and interested individuals to submit their views on the program. The Minister would like to have received these submissions by 7 March 1983, so that he can arrange a meeting to discuss the submissions before the end of March.

Attached to this circular you will find a number of questions which should be considered in the review process.

P.E.F. KIRBY  
Deputy Director-General

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CDP QUESTIONS

1. WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED BY THE CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM?
2. WHAT IS BEING ACHIEVED BY THE CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM?
3. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING CONDITIONS AND THESE ACHIEVEMENTS?
4. WHAT FACTORS ARE RESTRAINING THESE ACHIEVEMENTS?
5. WHAT FACTORS ARE FACILITATING THESE ACHIEVEMENTS?
6. ARE THE FUNDED CO-OPERATIVES BECOMING SELF-SUFFICIENT?
7. WHAT ARE THE INDICATORS OF THIS SELF-SUFFICIENCY?
8. HAVE THE CO-OPERATIVES ESTABLISHED ALTERNATIVE OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL MODELS FOR WORKPLACES AND WORK?
9. WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES WORKER AND/OR COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL MAKE TO A BUSINESS ENTERPRISES?
10. IS IT POSSIBLE TO BE A CO-OPERATIVE AND A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE?
11. ARE THE FUNDED CO-OPERATIVES BECOMING INDEPENDENT AND/OR DEPENDENT UPON GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY?
12. WHAT ARE THE INDICATORS OF THIS INDEPENDENCE AND/OR DEPENDENCE?
13. HAVE THE CO-OPERATIVES DEMONSTRATED A COMMITMENT TO EMPLOYMENT GROWTH WHICH DOES NOT JEOPARDISE THEIR VIABILITY?
14. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNITY AND/OR WORKER OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED CO-OPERATIVES?
15. ARE THE CO-OPERATIVES OPERATING IN THE MAINSTREAM ECONOMY? IF NOT, WHY NOT? IF YES, IN WHAT WAY?
16. IS PRODUCTIVITY AND COMMITMENT HIGHER IN A CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS THAN IN MORE TRADITIONAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES?
17. WHAT IS THE RELEVANCE OF THE CO-OPERATIVES TO ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY?
18. HOW MANY JOBS HAVE BEEN CREATED IN THE CDP?
19. WHAT ARE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR THESE JOBS CONTINUING?
20. WHAT IS THE COST PER JOB CREATED?
21. WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER JOB CREATION THROUGH CO-OPERATIVES?
22. WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITIES FOR GENERATING JOBS?

23. WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE CDP UNIT?
24. WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS UNIT?
25. WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION AND TRAINING UNIT?
26. DO THE CDP OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING CONDITIONS HELP OR HINDER THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES?
27. WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE CDP FUNDING COMMITTEE?
28. WHAT IS A CO-OPERATIVE?
29. WHAT IS A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE?
30. WHAT ARE THE DIFFICULTIES OF BEING A CO-OPERATIVE AND A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE?
31. HOW IMPORTANT ARE BUSINESS PLANS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES?
32. HOW IMPORTANT ARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING PLANS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES?